

# COLLINS HEARING

## WATCH, CHAIN AND STUD THE MOST DAMAGING WITNESSES.

### ARE LIKELY TO CONVICT HIM

NEGROES MAY BEAR FALSE WITNESS, BUT JEWELRY DOES NOT.

It Fully Corroborates the Stories Told by Harper and Jordan—Harper on the Stand Yesterday—He Kept the Crowd Laughing.

TOPEKA, June 22.—(Special.) A gold watch and chain and a diamond stud are the mute witnesses that are likely to clinch the conviction of John Collins on the charge of slaying his own father. The state will depend on them to a great degree. With them out of the way, the defense would apparently have little difficulty.



MISS FRANCES BABCOCK, Who Will Not Appear as a Witness in the Preliminary Hearing in the Collins Murder Case.

culty in securing an acquittal. But they are very much in the case, and the defense realizes that they offer an almost insurmountable difficulty. Just how it will endeavor to get around them is not known. No jury in the world would convict upon the evidence given by the negroes alone, no matter how much corroborative evidence there was from the watch, chain and stud stand forth to confirm the stories of the negroes. It is possible to manufacture evidence such as the negroes gave, but not such as the articles mentioned give. The negroes are tough individuals, and a jury would hesitate about believing them. But with the watch, chain and diamond to back them up, much weight will be given to their testimony.

At the hearing this afternoon Sheriff Cook produced a written statement over the signature of John Collins in which he tells about the disappearance of his watch and chain and diamond. It was not known that such a statement was in existence except by the sheriff, the detectives, the prosecuting officers and young Collins. Even Collins' attorneys did not know it. It was written in reply to a request of the sheriff for information concerning him. It follows:

"My said father was taken to me on or about March 31, '98. It had a monogram 'J. H. C.' on the outside, and an inscription, 'J. H. Collins, March 31, 1873-1898'. On the inside, I think it had gold hands. I first missed my watch on the morning after the Dewey day parade when I was at the Santa Fe depot, at Topeka. I thought I must have left it at my room in Topeka, as I often left other things. The day that I came home I looked all around for it, but did not find it. The chain was attached to it, and I had it in my trousers' pocket. The last time I remember looking at it was in the crowd in front of Stansfield's drug store shortly after the cutting scene. After that I was on the possession of the watch, and in the crowd around the jail the rest of the time. On the other end of the chain in another pocket was a small buttonhook.

"I missed my diamond stud some time before, but I do not remember how long I had it. I told Miss Babcock shortly afterward of my having lost it. I missed it one evening when I was dressing to make a call. 'JOHN HENRY COLLINS.

"Topeka, Missouri, now cannot get away from that statement. He wrote it voluntarily and signed it and delivered it to the sheriff. The state can prove that the watch was in the possession of John Collins at the time Collins said he had it; that the diamond was in a pawnshop at Lawrence, and that the chain was at a local pawnshop. The records can be produced to show that Collins is deeper in the hole to-night than ever.

Outside of the statement produced by Sheriff Cook, the most important feature of today's hearing was the testimony of Jesse Harper, the Lawrence negro, with whom Collins is charged with conspiring to slay his father. Harper told of receiving Collins' stud, \$5 in cash and car fare to Topeka and return. His evidence in other respects was damaging. He swore, however, that Collins never asked him to kill his father, nor did Collins ever mention his father's name.

Harper said that Collins wanted him 'to do a dirty job.' Harper also swore that Johnson Jordan never told him that Collins wanted him to kill his father. Jordan did tell him that Collins 'wanted him to kill a man.'

There was a larger attendance of women at the trial to-day than on any previous occasion. They imagined that it was a social occasion, but this did not stop them. The judge himself had to laugh on several occasions. Despite the damaging evidence being given against him, young Collins could not keep a straight face. Harper's manner of answering questions and his little hints with the attorneys, together with his slang phrases and queer expressions, was too much for everybody. He is a typical, trapshooting negro. On the whole, his story was very straightforward. The defense on cross-examination did not break it anywhere.

Miss Grace Collins, sister of John Collins, the accused, was the first witness examined to-day. She testified that John was at home on the morning of the murder, April 19 and the day her father was murdered. He came up at noon on Tuesday, the day the murder was committed, and the most of the day and evening, and went to Lawrence the next morning. She knew he was at home that night. She saw him in the morning. She said John came to Topeka the day after the murder and stayed at home that night. She saw him upstairs and stood at her door and talked. She thought that Mr. and Mrs. Collins came home from the city and that night they engaged in a general conversation, although the young people were both in bed.

William Mackley Lyon, a reporter, was called to the stand to testify in regard to the conversation he had had on the morning of May 11 with John Collins in regard to the missing revolver. He testified that in company with Coroner Westfield, he went to the Collins residence Saturday morning and talked with John Collins in the library.

He said that Collins told him in answer to a question about the missing revolver that he had not been found and that he knew of no one to the room where the revolver was. This statement was important for the state, in that the fact was developed that one of the missing revolvers was in the room in the upstairs stairs close to the evening, and John knew this. Also, the other revolver was found in the room in the morning.

Chief of Police Henry Steele testified that he got to the Collins home at 6:30 a. m. at once to the room where the murdered man lay. Mrs. Collins was the only person there at the time. He then began to look for the revolver. He did not find it. He found a window on the second floor open, and he took it to be the window through which the revolver was thrown. He did not find it. The next day a revolver was found in the Collins residence, and it was taken to the police station. The state did not go into the Collins residence on the revolver question.

Upon cross-examination it developed that Steele made a mistake in the name of the burglar who was in the house on the morning of the murder. He did not know who the burglar was, but he said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder.

Harper, one of the tough negroes with whom young Collins is accused of conspiring to kill his father, went on the witness stand and told his story. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder.

He began by saying that he was born and raised in Lawrence, and that he had been in the house on the morning of the murder. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder.

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"What else did you do?" "Run kyanismus." "Was it a job?" "No, it was a job in Lawrence." The witness then told about the first meeting with John Collins in regard to the missing revolver. He testified that in company with Coroner Westfield, he went to the Collins residence Saturday morning and talked with John Collins in the library.

After going over the first meeting at length, Attorney Hayden, for the defense, asked: "How did that telegram you sent to Jordan read?" "Come at once on 9-18 train, or something that rhymes with it, see." "When did you send it?" "Some time between 11 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon."

"Did you get it down closer than that?" "I might, but I don't know those things to be sure, see?" "Up to the night Jordan came to Lawrence, had John told you that he wanted Jordan to kill a man?" "No, sir. But I suspected that he wanted Jordan to kill a man."

"Did John Collins ever tell you that he wanted Jordan to kill a man?" "No, sir. He never did tell me that he wanted Jordan to kill a man." "The witness then told about the story of Collins giving him the \$5 the following day."

After Collins paid you the \$5, when did you next see him?" "Collins didn't pay me \$5." "Hayden insisted on his answering the question." "Jordan claimed that the witness was correct in answering the question in that form."

"Collins didn't pay me \$5. He gave it to me to hand to Jordan." "The court said the question was proper." "Two days," responded Harper. "Any of these conversations did Harper Collins say anything about his father or his mother?" "No, sir. I mentioned what Jordan told me and Collins told me to keep my mouth shut."

"Harper, in any of these conversations you had, did John Collins show you a photo of his father?" "No, sir. The only picture I ever saw was in the watch." "The witness then told about the photo of Collins showing him such a photo?" "Not as I remember."

"Did you ever have a fight with John Smothers?" "If I did have a fight, I forgot all about it." "After being arrested and brought to the Topeka jail the witness said the detective told him he might as well tell the truth. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder.

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Kenzie had to be carried to the gallows. Neither man spoke. The crimes for which Lananah and McKenzie had the death penalty were brutal and horrible ones. Lananah killed a little negro girl, 12 years of age, named Millie Galt. The evidence showed that he was drunk at the time, and that he was in the house on the morning of the murder. He said that he was in the house on the morning of the murder.

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CAMP ALGER, VA., June 20.—(Special.) Camp Alger is now thoroughly stirred up. Recruits and brigades are daily marching camp for three days practice marching. A few hours' notice and they are off on heavy marching order. Rumors are abroad as to the early moving of certain regiments to Southern ports, recruits are arriving daily in squads of from twenty to 50 men. The recruits are equipped with rifles, and are drilled in the first simple movements of a soldier. Telegrams have been sent to those officers who have been away on short furlough, ordering them back to their companies. This morning the recruits were ordered to march after they had been in camp for some time. They were to be in camp for some time. They were to be in camp for some time.

THE THIRD IS FULLY EQUIPPED. PENNSYLVANIA IRISHMEN INDULGES IN COSTLY HUMOR. "Turn Out de Push, Here Comes de Main Guy." He Shouted, as the Governor of His State Rode By—He's in the Guard-house Now.

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part of the father before the son could realize that he had enlisted, too. "I wanted to surprise you, John," said the father. Now John is in the drill in the awkward squad a couple of weeks until he becomes proficient enough in the tactics to drill beside his son.

Saturday morning of the Eastern regiments celebrated the battle of Hunker Hill. The governor of Pennsylvania, Alfred W. Jones, accompanied by his staff, and took part in the celebration. As he was leaving the camp in the evening, he sent at post 1, whose duty it is to be on the lookout for all officers whose rank and duty the completion of the turning out of the guard, saw him while the mounted party was several miles away.

"Turn out de push! Here comes the main guy," yelled the sentinel, a young Irishman, whose bowery training is more extensive than his military knowledge. The guard fell in as the governor and his staff rode by. The governor was no longer over than sentry No. 1 was placed under arrest by the officer of the guard. The field officers' court gave him thirty days in the guardhouse and \$3 fine. The humor cost him dearly, but it has caused to end of amusement all over the corps. The Third regiment will simply thank it, and the other regiments in the camp would be equipped with the magazine gun, and he could get the proper ammunition in case he got the gun.

Why the government is equipping the army with the magazine gun, and giving the regular army a magazine gun cannot be explained here. The Third regiment will simply thank it, and the other regiments in the camp would be equipped with the magazine gun, and he could get the proper ammunition in case he got the gun.

Every day for over a week the per cent of sickness in camp has been rapidly diminishing. This fact has not been lost on the medical department of the Third regiment. The Kansas City regiment stands at the head of the surgeon's list at division headquarters as being the most healthy regiment in the division. The largest number to report at sick call in the Third this week was seventy, only six of these being ill enough to go to the division hospital. The average number in each of the other regiments in the brigade was 250 at sick call.

Colonel Girard, surgeon of the corps, says that the health of the soldiers may be expected to improve rapidly now, since the boys are becoming hardened to the outdoor life. The boys in the Third Missouri have been troubled with poison ivy more than anything else. The woods are full of the poison ivy. The boys are becoming hardened to the outdoor life. The boys in the Third Missouri have been troubled with poison ivy more than anything else. The woods are full of the poison ivy. The boys are becoming hardened to the outdoor life.

At 11 o'clock this morning many interesting scenes were witnessed as the short English poets Dr. McClellan considered the finest. According to the speaker, the poets were "Saul," by Robert Browning, "Elegy in a Country Churchyard," by Gray; Whitman's "Out of the Cradle," by Whitman; "The Palace of Art," by Tennyson; "The Charge of the Light Brigade," by Alfred, Lord Tennyson; "The Charge of the Light Brigade," by Alfred, Lord Tennyson; "The Charge of the Light Brigade," by Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

Exception was taken to this choice by several members of the audience, and the most part of the audience agreed with Dr. McClellan. The poets were "Saul," by Robert Browning, "Elegy in a Country Churchyard," by Gray; Whitman's "Out of the Cradle," by Whitman; "The Palace of Art," by Tennyson; "The Charge of the Light Brigade," by Alfred, Lord Tennyson; "The Charge of the Light Brigade," by Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

To-morrow at 10 o'clock a meeting will be held in the hall of the city hall to discuss the best means of rewarding the Kansas regiments for not having "cantons." Dr. McClellan and his staff will be present. The meeting will be held in the hall of the city hall to discuss the best means of rewarding the Kansas regiments for not having "cantons." Dr. McClellan and his staff will be present.

Professor Charles Graham Dunlap, of Kansas University, will be present. The meeting will be held in the hall of the city hall to discuss the best means of rewarding the Kansas regiments for not having "cantons." Dr. McClellan and his staff will be present.

Dr. McClellan, of Topeka, and Dr. Dibble, of Kansas City, arrived this morning and made the session of the Women's Council of Officers very interesting by their discussion of traveling libraries. A library of Kansas books will be one of the features of the session.

Democrat Renominates Ridgely. The Democratic convention in this city to-day. Ninety-one delegates were present. H. P. Farver, of Lawrence, was first in the nomination. E. R. Hughes, of Lawrence, was second. E. R. Hughes, of Lawrence, was second. E. R. Hughes, of Lawrence, was second.

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### PORT ARTHUR ROUTE

Next Year's Chautauqua. It Will Not Be Held Until After the Fourth of July—Dr. Northrop Elected President. FOREST PARK, OTTAWA, KAN., June 22.—(Special.) An habitual sufferer heard to-day to say that the lectures were so dry they had absorbed the rain clouds and brought the sunny weather. Near the truth would be the supposition that the rainmaker had listened and become so interested that he had been neglecting his business interests. However that may be, the Chautauqua assembly has at last resigned its position as the "submerged life."

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